

The Comical Historie of

He pleyes the Duke at morning and at night,
And doth impeach the freedome of the state
If they deny him Iustice. Twenty Merchants,
The Duke him selfe, and the Magnificos
Of greatest port have all perswaded with him,
But none can drive him from the envious plea
Of forfeiture, of Iustice, and his Bond.

Ieff. When I was with him, I have heard him swear
To *Tuball* and to *Chus*, his country-men,
That he would rather have *Antonio's* flesh
Then twenty times the value of the summe
That he did owe him: and I know my lord,
If Law, authority, and power deny not,
It will go hard with poore *Antonio*.

Por. Is it your deere friend that is thus in trouble?

Bass. The deereft friend to mee, the kindest man,
The best conditiond and unwearied spirit
In doing curtesies: and one in whom
The ancient Roman honour more appears,
Then any that draws breath in *Italy*.

Por. What summe owes he the Jew?

Bass. For me three thousand Ducats.

Por. What no more, pay him six thousand, and deface the bond.
Double six thousand, and then treble that,
Before a friend of this description
Shall lose a haire through *Bassanio's* fault.

First go with me to Church, and call me wife,
And then away to *Venice* to your friend;
For never shall you lie by *Portia's* side

With an unquiet soule. You shall have gold
To pay the perry debt twenty times over.

When it is paid, bring your true friend along,
My maid *Nerissa*, and my selfe meane time
Will live as Maides and Widdowes; come away,
For you shall hence upon your wedding day:

Bid your friends welcome, shew a merry cheere,
Since you are deere bought, I will love you deere.

But let me heare the letter of your friend.

the Merchant

*Sweet Bassanio, my ships have
cruel, my estate is very low, my b
paying it, it is impossible I should
and I, if I might but see you at m
pleasure, if your love do not persi*

Por. O love I dispatch all bu

Bass. Since I have your good
I will make haste; but till I co
No bed shall ere be guilty of m
Nor re be interposer twixt us

*Enter the Jew, and
and th*

Jew. Iaylor, looke to him, tel
This is the scoule that lent out n
Iaylor, looke to him.

Anth. Heare me yet good

Jew. He have my bond, spea
I have sworne an oath, that I w
Thou call'dst me dog before th
But since I am a dog, beware m
The Duke shall grant me Iustice
Thou naughty Iaylor that thou
To come abroad with him at h

An. I pray thee heare me sp

Jew. He have my bond, I w
He have my bond, and therefor
He not be made a soft and dull e
To shake the head, relent, and si
To Christian intercessors: follow
He have no speaking, I will hav

Sol. It is the most impenit
That ever kept with men.

An. Let him alone,

He follow him no more with b
He seeks my life, his reason wel
I oft deliverd him his forfeiture

Sweet